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ture and will demand the assumption either that the Amurreean culture was insignificant, or that its forces were spent before the days of the Exodus. If the Amurreean civilization was of a high order, and soon reached the Hammurabi class in the East, and Israel became heir to a similar heritage in the West, then Israelitish thought and religion saw no development of any magnitude, and her history is written in decline and not progress.

The writer is silent on several important matters. How did this culture originate in Amurru? What was there to explain it? We watch the Israelitish and Babylonian civilizations developing from age to age. We observe the forces which fashion them. What then are the powers responsive to which Amurru becomes the seat of development? The author speaks of the Sumerian element in the Babylonian civilization. He does not specify the Sumerian contribution. On what grounds can we make the Creation story or the Deluge story Amurreean and not Sumerian? We feel that there is too much that is still uncertain about the early movements and predominating influences of these peoples to reach any basis of classification. We are not adverse to a position that the West may have made a contribution to the East, but that it was exclusive and the source of Semitic culture may still be an open question.

R. H. MODE

BRANDON, MANITOBA

Aegypten zur Zeit der Pyramidenerbauer. Von EDUARD MEYER.
Leipzig: Hinrichs, 1908.

Throughout the United States, from the Mississippi eastward, great interest has been aroused by Professor Eduard Meyer's illuminating lecture on the "Egyptians of the Pyramid Age." It is well therefore to call attention to the fact that this lecture was first delivered before the German Orient-Gesellschaft, in the presence of the emperor in 1908, and that it was thereupon published with a large number of the interesting illustrations by which it was accompanied on its first delivery. Besides sixteen cuts in the text, the brochure is accompanied by seventeen plates. One of them, in beautiful colors, depicts the marvelous vase of blue glaze and gold recently found by Borchardt at Abusir, and belonging to the twenty-seventh century before Christ. Altogether the little brochure offers a symmetrical and carefully elaborated picture of one of the most important and interesting periods of the early world in the light of recent discovery.

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